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PORTRAIT OF AN AMERICAN CITY
MATTHEW SCHNEIDER

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SERIES 7 #2

SAN DIEGO: CABRILLIO SHOULD HAVE STAYED
(INSERTS IN TAPE LIBRARY)

ANNCR: NOW ANOTHER IN THE VOA'S SERIES ON AMERICAN CITIES. TODAY, SAN DIEGO: CABRILLIO SHOULD HAVE STAYED. YOUR GUIDE FOR THIS RADIO VISIT TO THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CITY IS _____.

TAPE: CUT ONE-MUSIC (FLAMENCO GUITAR WITH DRAMATIC OPENING) IN FULL,HOLD FOR EFFECT THEN FADE UNDER FOR:

NARR: IT WAS THE MONTH OF JUNE IN THE YEAR 1542. TWO STUBBY SAILING SHIPS RODE THE TIDE OUT OF NAVIDAD ON MEXICO'S WEST COAST AND SAILED NORTH FOR THE KING OF SPAIN IN SEARCH OF THE MYTHICAL NORTHWEST PASSAGE. THE SMALL BAND OF EXPLORERS WHO MANNED THE CRAFT THAT THEY THEMSELVES HAD BUILT, WERE LED BY JOAO RODRIGUES, A PORTUGESE-BORN NAVIGATOR WHO THE SPANISH CALLED JUAN RODRIGUES CABRILLIO.

THREE MONTHS AFTER SETTING SAIL, CABRILLIO AND HIS EXHAUSTED CREW ROWED ASHORE AT POINT LOMA AT THE MOUTH OF SAN DIEGO BAY AND BECAME THE FIRST EUROPEANS TO SET FOOT IN GOLDEN CALIFORNIA. A WEARY CABRILLIO CLAIMED THE LAND FOR GOD AND THE SPANISH KING AND THEN TOOK OFF TO RECOUPERATE IN THE BALMY WEATHER AND TO MARVEL AT THE MAGNIFICENT NATURAL HARBOR THAT THEY HAD DISCOVERED.

SIX DAYS LATER CABRILLIO AND HIS MEN WEIGHED ANCHOR AND HEADED UP THE COAST. CABRILLIO SHOULD HAVE STAYED.

TAPE: MUSIC-UP FULL BRIEFLY THEN UNDER FOR

NARR: WHILE EXPLORING SAN MIGUEL ISLAND IN THE SANTA BARBARA CHANNEL, CABRILLIO FELL AND BROKE A LEG -- OR AN ARM -- THE HISTORY BOOKS DIFFER ON THIS POINT. BUT THAT DIDN'T STOP THE BEARDED ADVENTURER WHO GAINED GLORY WHILE FIGHTING THE INDIANS WITH CORTEZ IN MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA. HE CONTINUED HIS VOYAGE UP THE CALIFORNIA COAST AS FAR AS POINT REYES, NORTH OF SAN FRANCISCO. THEN, DRIVEN SOUTH BY STORMS AND EXHAUSTON, CABRILLIO RETREATED TO SAN MIGUEL ISLAND WHERE HE SOON DIED FROM THE EFFECTS OF HIS BROKEN LIMB. HAD HE STAYED IN SAN DIEGO, HE CERTAINLY WOULD HAVE LIVED A LONG HEALTHFUL LIFE ENJOYING THE WARM SUNNY DAYS, COOL NIGHTS AND CLEAR DESERT AIR.

TAPE: MUCIC UP BRIEFLY THEN OUT

NARR: IT TOOK THE SPANISH 226 YEARS TO APPRECIATE CABRILLIO'S GLOWING REPORTS ABOUT THE DESERT MOUNTAINS, SAGEBRUSH COVERED HILLS, SHADOWY PALISADES AND GLEAMING WHITE BEACHES THAT FRAMED THE LARGE BLUE-WATER HARBOR.
IN 1967 THE FRANCISCAN FRIAR JUNIPERO SERRA ARRIVED ON THE SHORES OF SAN DIEGO BAY TO ESTABLISH THE FIRST OF A STRING OF MISSIONS THAT WOULD EVENTUALLY REACH CALIFORNIA'S NORTH COAST.

TODAY ON THE HILL TOP SITE OF THE FIRST MISSION KNOWN AS SAN DIEGO DE ALCALA' IS THE JUNIPERO SERRA MUSEUM, BUILT IN THE STYLE OF THE OLD SPANISH MISSIONS. OUTSIDE THE MUSEUM, SAN DIEGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBER ANNE KANTOR DESCRIBED THE FIRST SETTLEMENT:

TAPE: CUT TWO -- KAPLAN

"THEY FORMED A PRESIDIO, OR FORT HERE ON THIS HILL OVERLOOKING THE HARBOR WHERE THEY EXPECTED PERHAPS PIRATE SHIPS TO COME IN AND OVERLOOKING MISSION VALLEY, AS IT IS NOW CALLED, THE SAN DIEGO RIVER RUNNING EAST WHERE THE INDIAN TRIBES WERE SETTLED. IT WAS AN ABSOLUTELY PERFECT SPOT FOR A FORT. AT THE SAME TIME THE FRANCISCAN MONKS WHO HAD COME WITH THE EXPEDITION UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF FATHER JUNIPERO SERRA, STARTED THE FIRST OF THE CHAIN OF MISSIONS THAT WERE TO COLONIZE THE COAST OF CALIFORNIA."

NARR: YOU CAN'T ESCAPE THE IMPRINT THAT THE SPANISH HERITAGE HAS LEFT ON SAN DIEGO -- FROM ITS OWN NAME TO THOUSANDS OF STREET NAMES, MONUMENTS, PARKS, MUSEUMS, SCHOOLS AND PLAYGROUNDS. THE SPANISH HERITAGE HAS ALSO HAD A PROFOUND EFFECT ON CALIFORNIA'S LEGAL SYSTEM -- INCLUDING THE LAWS WHICH GOVERN THE USE AND OWNERSHIP OF LAND, AND PORTIONS OF THE STATE'S WELL-PUBLICISED DIVORCE LAW.

TAPE: CUT TWO-SOUND (SHIP'S HORN) ONE LONG BLAST.

NARR: IF JUAN CABRILLIO COULD SOMEHOW RETURN TO THE BAY HE DISCOVERED MORE THAN FOUR AND ONE THIRD CENTURIES AGO, HE'D DOUBTLESS RECOGNIZE ITS SHAPE. BUT EVERYTHING ELSE WOULD BE AWESOMELY STRANGE: THE DISTANT MOUNTAINS ARE STILL THERE, BEIGE AND BROWN IN THE AFTERNOON SUN, BUT THE ONCE BARREN HILLS ARE COVERED WITH TREES THAT SHADE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF HOMES AND SHOPS. NOT FAR FROM THE SITE OF THE ORIGINAL SETTLEMENT, THE CITY'S DOWNTOWN IS A MIXTURE OF OLD BRICK STRUCTURES AND GLEEMING OFFICE TOWERS.

NARR: (CONT) THE HARBOR ITSELF BUZZES WITH ACTIVITY. THE BEST WAY TO SEE THE HARBOR IS FROM ONE OF THE EXCURSION BOATS THAT CARRY HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF TOURISTS ANNUALLY.

TAPE: CUT THREE -- KENNEDY

"SAN DIEGO IS A VERY BEAUTIFUL, NATURAL LAND-LOCKED HARBOR. IT COVERS ABOUT 22 SQUARE MILES. SHAPED LIKE A CRESCENT, IT HAS BUT ONE OPENING TO THE SEA. KNOWN AS THE 'SILVER GATE' IT'S LOCATED AT BALLAST POINT, NEAR THE END OF POINT LOMA. WE'LL BE PASSING BALLAST POINT IN ABOUT 35 MINUTES."

FADE TAPE OUT

"THE PORT IS OPERATED BY THE UNIFIED PORT DISTRICT, A MULTI-CITY GOVERNMENT BODY WHICH CONSISTS OF CORONADO, IMPERIAL BEACH, CHULA VISTA, NATIONAL CITY AND SAN DIEGO."

NARR: THE VOICE OF BUD KENNEDY, A RETIRED NAVAL AVIATOR WHO LIVES IN SAN DIEGO AND WHO KNOWS AS MUCH ABOUT THE HARBOR AS ANYONE AFLOAT. HE'S GLAD THAT THE HARBOR HAS UNDERGONE PLANNED GROWTH TO PREVENT THE DECAY OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH MAJOR PORT AREAS.

AT ANY GIVEN TIME HUNDREDS OF PLEASURE BOATS DOT THE CALM WATERS OF THE HARBOR. ON WEEKEND AND HOLIDAYS THOUSANDS OF SMALL PRIVATE BOATS FILL THE BAY WHILE OTHERS VENTURE OUT TO THE PACIFIC OCEAN.

HUNDREDS OF SLEEK TUNA BOATS CALL SAN DIEGO THEIR HOME PORT, AND MORE THAN FIVE THOUSAND MEN AND WOMEN WORK FOR THE DRYDOCK COMPANIES AND SHIP BUILDERS THAT SERVE THE WATERFRONT. BUT IT'S CLEARLY THE NAVY THAT DOMINATES THE HARBOR.

TAPE: CUT FOUR KENNEDY

"THERE ARE THREE AIRCRAFT CARRIERS HERE THIS MORNING. THE '63' IS THE KITTY HAWK, THE '61 THE RANGER AND THE '64' THE CONSTELLATION. THE RANGER IS A FORRESTAL CLASS CARRIER. THE OTHER TWO ARE MODIFIED FORRESTAL CLASS. ALL THREE OF THESE SHIPS HAVE COMPLIMENTS OF VERY CLOSE TO FIVE THOUSAND OFFICERS AND MEN WHEN THEIR AIRCRAFT ARE ABOARD. THEY CARRY 75 TO 90 AIRCRAFT DEPENDING ON THE TYPE ASSIGNED."

NARR: ELSEWHERE IN THE HARBOR, DESTROYERS ARE BERTHED ALONG WITH SPEEDY PATROL BOATS, PLODDING TROOP SHIPS AND FAT TANKERS. SINISTER BLACK-PAINTED SUBMARINES GLIDE SILENTLY IN AND OUT OF THE HARBOR TO TAKE PART IN TRAINING EXERCISES AND TO PATROL THE PACIFIC SHIPPING LANES.

THE AIR ABOVE THE HARBOR IS FILLED WITH THE SOUNDS OF NAVY AIRCRAFT; SCREAMING FIGHTERS, SLOW MOVING SUBMARINE HUNTERS AND DRAGONFLY-LIKE HELICOPTERS. TOUR BOAT PASSENGERS OFTEN COMMENT THAT THE DISPLAY OF POTENTIAL FIREPOWER IS SOBERING.

WHILE THE NAVY SEEKS TO SOFT SELL ITS OVER-ALL IMPACT ON LIFE IN SAN DIEGO, THE HARD FACTS ARE THAT THE NAVY IS THE SINGLE LARGEST INDUSTRY IN THE BAY AREA. NAVY SPOKESMAN, COMMANDER JACK MAYO.

TAPE: CUT FIVE -- MAYO

"HISTORICALLY THE NAVY AND THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO HAVE GROWN TOGETHER OVER A PERIOD OF MANY, MANY YEARS. SAN DIEGO ACCOUNTS FOR 60 PER CENT, NEARLY TWO-THIRDS OF THE U.S. PACIFIC FLEET. AND IT'S EVEN IMPRESSIVE IF YOU LOOK AT THE OVER ALL FLEET OF THE U.S. NAVY. WE HAVE TWENTY-EIGHT PER CENT OF THE NAVY'S ENTIRE FLEET HOME PORTED HERE IN SAN DIEGO. SO THIS IS A NAVY, A PRIME NAVY HOME PORT. AND ITS A PLACE THAT MANY NAVY PEOPLE CALL HOME; NOT ONLY THOSE NOW LIVING AND WORKING HERE BUT YOU APT TO FIND NAVY PEOPLE ANYWHERE YOU MEET THEM IN THE WORLD WHO HAVE BEEN STATIONED IN SAN DIEGO AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER."

NARR: AND LIKE BUD KENNEDY, MANY NAVY PERSONNEL RETIRE TO THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CITY WHERE THEY OFTEN TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN LOCAL AFFAIRS.

WHILE THE NAVY POURS BETWEEN TWO AND ONE HALF AND THREE THOUSAND MILLION DOLLARS INTO THE LOCAL ECONOMY EACH YEAR, LEE GRISSOM AN OFFICIAL OF THE SAN DIEGO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EMPHASIZES THAT THERE ARE NOW OTHER, EQUALLY IMPORTANT FACTORS WHICH ADD TO THE AREA'S OVER-ALL PROSPERITY.

TAPE: CUT SIX -- GRISSOM

"SAN DIEGO LIKE MANY SUNBELT CITIES IN THIS COUNTRY HAS BEEN ABLE TO CAPTURE IN RECENT YEARS A GREAT NUMBER OF LIGHT ELECTRONICS COMPANIES. BUT ALSO WE HAVE A TREMENDOUS NUMBER OF TOURISTS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY. AND WHEN YOU ADD THOSE TWO NEW COMPONENTS ALONG WITH THE ABILITY OF THIS AREA TO HAVE ATTRACTED IN THE LAST 15 YEARS A GREAT NUMBER OF RESEARCH FIRMS, AND CERTAINLY THE NEW MEDICAL SCHOOL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, WITH THEIR CAMPUS HERE, YOU ADD THOSE INGREDIENTS TO THE TRADITIONAL ECONOMIC BASE IN SAN DIEGO WHICH HAS BEEN THE NAVY, WHICH CONTINUES TO PUMP IN MORE THAN TWO AND ONE HALF THOUSAND MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR INTO THIS REGION'S ECONOMY, WE FIND THAT AND AEROSPACE (INDUSTRY) AND THE RETAIL MIX PRETTY WELL MAKES UP THE LOCAL ECONOMY.

NARR: MR. GRISSOM WHO HEADS THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF OF THE BUSINESS ORIENTED ORGANIZATION, SAYS THAT THE PROSPERITY ALONG WITH THE CITY'S CLIMATE, OFTEN DESCRIBED AS BEST IN THE U.S. MEANS THE INFLUX OF NEW RESIDENTS WILL CONTINUE.

THE PROBLEM AS LEE GRISSOM SEES IT, IS THAT TOO MANY PEOPLE MAY BE ATTRACTED.

TAPE: CUT SEVEN -- GRISSOM

"I'M REMINDED OF A SAYING THAT FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT (THE ARCHITECT) HAD WHICH WAS: 'ALL OF AMERICA IS TILTED TO THE WEST AND EVERYTHING LOOSE IS SLIDING TO CALIFORNIA.' AND I THINK WE FIND OURSELVES BEING SLID INTO A GREAT DEAL."

NARR: HIGH TAXES AND INFLATION AND DESIRE TO CONTROL THE GROWTH OF THE CITY ARE THE MAJOR CONCERNS OF SAN DIEGO'S CITIZENS, ACCORDING TO JERRY WARREN THE WELL-RESPECTED EDITOR OF THE CITY'S LARGEST CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER, "THE UNION." HE BELIEVES THERE IS NO WAY TO PREVENT GROWTH IN SAN DIEGO, BUT HE IS OPTIMISTIC THAT PLANNING WILL HEAD OFF MANY PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY OTHER AMERICAN CITIES WHICH HAVE UNDERGONE RAPID GROWTH.

TAPE: CUT EIGHT -- WARREN

"FOR EXAMPLE, WE ARE NOW OPERATING UNDER A CONTROLLED RESIDENTIAL GROWTH THEORY, FORMULA, IN OUR CITY AND COUNTY PLANNING, ALTHOUGH THERE ARE NO FIRM ORDINANCE' TO MANDATE THAT. BUT THE PHILOSOPHY OF MANAGED GROWTH HAS A FOOTHOLD IN SAN DIEGO."

NARR: ANOTHER PART OF SAN DIEGO THAT IS CHANGING DRAMATICALLY IS THE VILLAGE OF LA JOLLA (HOY-A). FAMOUS FOR ITS CHIC SHOPS, BEAUTIFUL BEACHES AND EXPENSIVE HOMES, LA JOLLA IS ALSO GAINING WORLD ATTENTION FOR THE COMPLEX OF BIOLOGICAL AND MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES CENTERED AROUND THE CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA'S SAN DIEGO MEDICAL SCHOOL.

DR. WILLIAM MCELROY, A BALDING, AFFABLE TEXAN WHO ONCE HEADED THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION IS THE CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY.

TAPE: CUT NINE -- MCELROY

"I THINK ITS HAPPENING BASED ON THE HISTORY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF U-C-S-D MEDICAL SCHOOL BASED HERE IN SAN DIEGO. WE STARTED OFF VERY STRONG IN THE SCIENCES. IT ATTRACTED SOME OF THE BEST BIO-MEDICAL SCIENTISTS IN THE COUNTRY: THE SALK INSTITUTE, OF COURSE DECIDED TO LOCATE HERE ABOUT THE SAME TIME. THAT ADDED A LOT OF STRENGTH TO THE COMMUNITY. THEN THE SCRIPPS CLINIC AND RESEARCH FOUNDATION, ALSO SITUATED HERE IN LA JOLLA, ALL OF THAT BRINGS TOGETHER WHAT WE THINK IS ONE OF THE TOP FOUR OR FIVE MAJOR BIO-MEDICAL RESEARCH UNITS IN THE WORLD."

NARR: BEYOND THE SCIENTIFIC IMPACT THE LA JOLLA COMPLEX HAS ON SAN DIEGO, DR. MCELROY SEES THE CONCENTRATION OF BRAINPOWER AS HELPING IMPROVE THE CITY'S CULTURAL ATMOSPHERE.

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TAPE: CUT TEN -- MCELROY

"I THINK IT HAS BROUGHT TO THIS AREA AN INTELLECTUAL ATMOSPHERE WHICH I THINK IS VERY STIMULATING FOR SOME -- MAYBE NOT SO STIMULATING TO OTHERS WHO DIDN'T WANT TO SEE GROWTH HERE. BUT I THINK IT HAS HAD A MAJOR IMPACT. OF COURSE THE AREA WHICH NORMALLY YOU WOULDN'T THINK ABOUT IS THAT IT STIMULATED THE PERFORMING ARTS BECAUSE THE UNIVERSITY BRINGS PEOPLE HERE WHO ARE EXPECTING TO HAVE SOMETHING IN THE CULTURAL SIDES OF LIFE. AND IT'S ACTUALLY STIMULATED THE PERFORMING ARTS NOT ONLY IN THE UNIVERSITY BUT IN SAN DIEGO AND LA JOLLA AS WELL."

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NARR: THE CULTURAL HEART OF SAN DIEGO IS FOUND JUST EAST OF THE DOWNTOWN AREA IN BALBOA PARK, FIRST DEVELOPED TO HOST INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITIONS IN 1915 AND 16 AND AGAIN IN 1935 AND 36. AMONG THE ATTRACTIONS IN BALBOA PARK ARE SEVERAL MUSEUMS AND THE ANNUAL SHAKESPEARE SUMMER FESTIVAL.

NARR: (CONT) ADJACENT TO BALBOA PART IS THE CITY'S MOST FAMOUS INSTITUTION, THE SAN DIEGO ZOO, WHICH HOLDS THE WORLD'S LARGEST COLLECTION OF WILD ANIMALS. ZOO DIRECTOR CHARLES BEILER:

TAPE: CUT ELEVEN BEILER

"WHEN YOU SPEAK OF THE ZOO AND SAN DIEGO YOU ALMOST HAVE TO THINK OF THE SAME THING. THE ZOO HAS GROWN WITH THE CITY AND IT IS SOMETHING THAT I THINK THE PEOPLE OF SAN DIEGO HAVE TAKEN TO BE THEIR OWN. SOME PEOPLE SAY THAT THE SAN DIEGO ZOO IS SECOND TO MOTHERHOOD IN THE COMMUNITY AND I THINK THAT'S PROBABLY A FACT. THE THE PEOPLE BELIIEVE IT'S THEIRS AND THEY SUPPORT IT."

NARR: INCREASINGLY CONCERNED WITH THE WORLD'S DECLINING WILD ANIMAL POPULATION THE SAN DIEGO ZOO HAS IN RECENT YEARS BEGUN AN INTENSIVE PROGRAM OF RESEARCH INTO ANIMAL REPRODUCTION, ESPECIALLY AMONG THOSE UNFORTUNATE SPECIES WHICH HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED AS "ENDANGERED."

AGAIN MR. BEILER

TAPE: CUT TWELVE BEILER

"WE'VE COME UP WITH A PHILOSOPHY THAT BY 1985 OR 1990 THAT WE HAVE TO HAVE A COMPLETELY SELF-SUSTAINING CAPTIVE POPULATION OF ANIMALS. ONE OF THE INTERESTING THINGS THAT WE FOUND -- I DIDN'T KNOW THIS WHEN I FIRST CAME HERE -- YOU CAN'T DETERMINE THE SEX OF MANY BIRDS IN CAPTIVITY. I ALWAYS THOUGH AN ORNITHOLOGIST WOULD LOOK AT A BIRD AND SAY THAT'S A MALE OR THAT'S A FEMALE. WELL WE HAD TWO KIWIS HERE ON EXHIBIT AND IN THE BREEDING PROGRAM FOR THREE YEARS AND THEY WERE BOTH MALE. SO ONE OF OUR AREAS OF RESEARCH THAT WE'RE VERY PLEASED ABOUT THAT IS, WE'VE DETERMINED A SYSTEM OF DISCOVERING THE SEX OF BIRDS WITHOUT HAVING TO BLEED THEM OR HANDLE THEM OR THIS TYPE OF THING, JUST BY ANALYSIS OF BIRD FECES. WE'RE GETTING INTO AREAS OF RESEARCH SO THAT WE CAN NOW DETERMINE WHEN YOUNG PRIMATES ARE PREGNANT BY TAKING URINE SAMPLES. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR US IN ACHIEVING THIS PROGRAM OF CAPTIVE REPRODUCTION. AND I THINK THAT THROUGH THE YEARS THIS HAS BEEN OUR GREATEST CONTRIBUTION TO RESEARCH IN ANIMAL LIFE."

TAPE: CUT THIRTEEN-MUSIC (TRANSITIONAL THEME) IN FULL BRIEFLY THEN UNDER AND OUT BEHIND

NARR: THE FRIENDLY CLIMATE, ALMOST ALWAYS CLEAN AIR, GROWING ECONOMY AND A POPULATION WITH A SENSE OF PURPOSE MAKE SAN DIEGO A PLAINLY DESIRABLE PLACE TO VISIT OR LIVE. BUT THE CITY DOES FACE SOME SERIOUS PROBLEMS. NEWSPAPER EDITOR JERRY WARREN BELIEVES THAT THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY MOST SAN DIEGANS ARE ABOUT CONTINUED ECONOMIC EXPANSION IN THE FACE OF A RAPIDLY EXPANDING POPULATION. THE OTHER MAJOR QUESTION, HE SAYS, IS ABOUT THE PROGRAM TO RACIALLY INTEGRATE CITY SCHOOLS.

TAPE: CUT FOURTEEN -- WARREN

"WE ARE GOING INTO THE FIRST YEAR OF A VOLUNTARY SCHOOL INTEGRATION PLAN WHICH HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE COURTS. I BELIEVE THIS WILL BE ONLY THE SECOND VOLUNTARY COURT-APPROVED INTEGRATION PLAN IN THE U.S. AND WE HAVE HIGH HOPES THAT IT WILL WORK HERE. BUT IF IT DOESN'T THE COURT WILL CORE BACK WITH MODIFIED BUSSING. MOST OF US HOPE THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN BUT IF IT DOES I THINK WE CAN HANDLE IT."

NARR: STRANGERS INQUIRING ABOUT SAN DIEGO'S DIFFICULTIES ALMOST ALWAYS ASK ABOUT UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS, THE UNCOUNTED NUMBERS OF MEXICANS WHO CROSS INTO THE U.S. NEAR SAN DIEGO. IT'S A HOT LOCAL ISSUE. THE "INDOCUMENTADOS" (IN-DOUGH-COO-MEN-TA-DOS) WILL, IN THEIR SEARCH FOR A BETTER LIFE, ACCEPT JOBS WHICH PAY MUCH LESS THAN PREVAILING WAGES PAID TO AMERICANS. SOME PEOPLE CHARGE THAT SUCH ACTIONS ROB AMERICANS OF EMPLOYMENT, AND THAT THEY RECEIVE TAX SUPPORTED WELFARE BENEFITS. OTHER OBSERVERS SUCH AS JERRY WARREN ARGUE THAT THE ISSUE IS OVERSTATED:

TAPE: CUT FIFTEEN -- WARREN

"YOU KNOW THAT REALLY ISN'T THE PROBLEM. ITS A LAW ENFORCEMENT PROBLEM ALONG THE BORDER,BECAUSE NOT ONLY DO ALIENS COME ACROSS THE BORDER, BUT CRIMINALS COME ACROSS THE BORDER TOO. PACKS OF THUGS WHO PREY ON THE ALIENS, FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER, BOTH MEXICANS AND UNITED STATES CITIZENS, ARE ENGAGED IN THIS TERRIBLE TRAFFIC. THAT IS A GREAT PROBLEM. BUT THE ALIENS THEMSELVES, ONCE THEY GET INTO THE FLOW OF OUR ECONOMY HERE AND ELSEWHERE DO NOT PRESENT A PROBLEM. THEY DON'T PRESENT A MAJOR POLICE PROBLEM AND THEY'RE CERTAINLY NOT A MAJOR WELFARE PROBLEM. IT IS MAINLY AN EMBARRASSMENT THAT CIRCUMSTANCES EXIST THAT THESE ALIENS FEEL IMPELLED, COMPELLED TO COME ACROSS THE BORDER THE WAY THEY DO. I THINK THAT HAS TO BE DEALT WITH ON A NATIONAL BASIS, AND NOT LOCALLY."

NARR: THE PLACE WHERE THE PROBLEMS FACING SAN DIEGO ARE ADDRESSED MOST DIRECTLY IS THE SKYSCRAPER CITY HALL. THE POWER THERE IS DIVIDED BETWEEN THE MAYOR, THE DOMINANT ELECTED OFFICIAL IN TOWN AND THE CITY COUNCIL.

MAUREEN O'CONNOR WAS ELECTED TO CITY COUNCIL SEVEN YEARS AGO, AT THE AGE OF 25 THE YOUNGEST WOMAN TO SERVE ON THE COUNCIL.NOW A POLITICAL VETERAN, MS. O'CONNOR BELIEVES THE STAUNCHLY CONSERVATIVE POLITICAL TRADITION OF SAN DIEGO IS CHANGING -- A CONSEQUENCE OF THE INFLUX INTO SAN DIEGO OF MANY YOUNG PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE U.S. SHE ALSO ATTRIBUTES THE CHANGE TO A CITY COUNCIL COMPOSED OF PEOPLE WHO ARE WILLING TO LISTEN TO THEIR CONSTITUENTS.

TAPE: CUT SIXTEEN -- O'CONNOR

"WE HAVE HOURS AND HOURS OF HEARINGS AS IT RELATES TO WHAT THE COMMUNITY WANTS. THEY'RE NOT BASHFULL ABOUT COMING DOWN (TO CITY HALL) WE DON'T HAVE A COUNCIL THAT LIMITS THE AMOUNT OF TIME OF CITIZENS, HERE THEY CAN GO FOR HOURS ON ONE SPECIFIC ITEM. AND THEY KNOW THEY CAN COME TO CITY HALL AND THAT'S WHY WE WORK VERY WELL WITH THEM AND IF YOU ARE RUNNING FOR THE COUNCIL AND YOU'RE NOT SENSITIVE TO WHAT YOUR DISTRICT WANTS AND WHAT THE CITY AS A WHOLE WANTS, YOU'RE NOT LIKELY TO GET ELECTED."

NARR: TO COUNCILWOMAN O'CONNER, WHOSE DISTRICT INCLUDED POINT LOMA WHERE DISCOVERED CABRILLIO CAME ASHORE MORE THAN 400 YEARS AGO, THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO REMINDS HER OF HER PERSONAL HERO, THE AMERICAN ACTRESS KATHERINE HEPBURN:

TAPE: CUT SEVENTEEN O'CONNOR

"I WOULD DESCRIBE IT AS A KATHERINE HEPBURN TYPE: SOMEONE THAT'S STRONGMINDED, VERY INDEPENDENT, KNOWS WHAT THEY WANT, WILL GO THEIR OWN WAY. BUT MOST OF ALL I THINK IT'S THE QUALITY SHE HAS, ITS GOT CLASS."

TAPE: CUT EIGHTEEN-MUSIC-CONCLUDING THEME. IN FULL BRIEFLY, THEN FADE UNDER AND OUT BEHIND:

ANNCR: YOU'VE BEEN LISTENING TO "SAN DIEGO: CABRILLIO SHOULD HAVE STAYED" ANOTHER IN THE VOA'S SERIES ON AMERICAN CITIES. SAN DIEGO WAS WRITTEN BY VOA CORRESPONDENT MATTHEW SCHNEIDER. YOUR NARRATOR WAS _____. THIS IS _____.

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RK/PY